Quincy Florida Nov. 17. 1844

My dear Sir.

I received your note of August last in due time & have given instructions to Riley & Putnam to forward ~~them to me~~ the package you left with them to me in Quincy

While at the North last year & while you were absent on your Southern tour I left at the Express Office in Westfield, Ms. a stout package of plants to be forwarded to your address at Cambridge & designed for M. Boissier Did you ultimately get it?

I shall attend to your request to send you live plants the coming Winter - I have not had an opportunity to collect them advantageously since I received your letter - I suppose the most desirable time to collect them here will be in the month of February when they are just beginning new shoots & then you will get them in time to plant them in the open air of your climate

It will be necessary to give me directions how they are to be sent that you may get them in the shortest time possible after they are packed

During the past summer I have been engaged in
the collection of Florida plants with a view to their
sale in Europe. I thought I could make it as profitable
as the practice of Med. & it is certainly more in conformity
to my disposition & one or the other I am compelled to do
As you are more conversant in such matters than
any other one to whom I could refer I wish to ask
your advice on some matters
Do you know how plants as rare as our Florida species
are prized in Europe & what is the usual price
What is the best market for them. To what house or houses
they may be consigned & any other particulars you may
deem useful – I have put up Twenty four packages each
of which will contain from five to seven hundred different
species nicely prepared & suitably labelled & These I wish
to dispose of abroad to the best advantage If I am
sufficiently encouraged in the undertaking I purpose to
continue the collection until I have completed the Flora
of the whole Territory But as the difficulty of preparing
good specimens is so great & the exertion necessary to collect
them in this climate so fatiguing I shall hold off until
I learn the result of this years labor.

How do you progress in the Flora. I have the numbers
up to the conclusion of the Compositae. Are there any numbers
issued since – I have laid aside for you whatever has occurred
to me since my last package You will probably find some
new things among them

I am indebted to you for expenses paid on several
packages & as I shall have funds with Perkins & Hopkins
New York the coming winter I wish you to hand in the
amt to Wiley & Putnams & I will give them an order
on the above firm

I remain
Very Respectfully
Yours
A. W. Chapman.

To Prof. Asa Gray.

Prof. Asa Gray
(Harvard University)
Cambridge
Massachusetts

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